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Toni Acton
Associate Director
Federal Regulatory

SBC Telecommunications, Inc.
1401 I Street, N.W.
Suite 400
Washington D.C. 20005
Phone 202 326-8843
Fax 202 408-4807



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

September 16, 2002

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Room TW A-325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **Ex Parte Presentation**
WC Docket 02-156, Petition of SBC Communications Inc. for
Forbearance from Section 272 of the Federal Communications Act of
1996

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The attached letter was sent to Ms. Julie Veach of the Wireline Competition Bureau on Friday, September 13, 2002. Please enter it into the record of the above referenced proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toni Acton", is written over a horizontal line.

Toni R. Acton
Associate Director

cc: Julie Veach

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September 13, 2002

Ms. Julie Veach
Competition Policy Division
Wireline Competition Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **Ex Parte Presentation**
WC Docket 02-156, Petition of SBC Communications Inc. for
Forbearance from Section 272 of the Federal Communications
Act of 1996

Dear Ms. Veach:

On May 24, 2002, SBC Communications, Inc. ("SBC") filed a petition, on behalf of Nevada Bell, for forbearance from Section 272 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act"), in connection with Nevada Bell's provision of nonlocal directory assistance ("NDA")¹. Comments were filed on July 12, with limited opposition to SBC's petition, and SBC's reply was filed on July 22.

SBC understands that section 10 of the Act provides the FCC one full calendar year to rule on its forbearance petition. However, SBC's petition is materially identical to the ones that were filed and approved for Ameritech, Pacific Bell and Southwestern Bell² and should be approved quickly in the public interest based on the number of customer inquiries Nevada Bell receives for NDA service. Additionally, the minimal opposition filed in response to SBC's petition has been addressed in SBC's reply comments.

¹ In the FCC's Memorandum Opinion and Order, it declined to address Nevada Bell in SBC's petition because Nevada Bell did not currently provision NDA. As directed by the FCC's order, Nevada Bell has demonstrated that its nonlocal directory assistance service complies with 271(g)(4) and seeks to provide such service.

² Petition of SBC Communications, Inc. for Forbearance of Structural Separation Requirements and Request for Immediate Interim Relief in Relation to the Provision of Nonlocal Directory Assistance Services, Memorandum Opinion and Order, CC Docket No. 97-172 (rel. April 11, 2000).

Ms. Julie Veach
September 13, 2002
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Forbearance from Section 272 is in the public interest. It would allow Nevada Bell customers the same advantage as SBC's customers located in other states, who currently have access to nonlocal listings. SBC respectfully requests that the FCC grant its petition on an expedited basis so the service can be tariffed and implemented for Nevada Bell customers.

Specifically, Nevada Bell receives a multitude of requests from its customers for NDA service. Based on a limited, informal survey of recent calls into Nevada Bell's local DA service, nine Nevada Bell DA operators received more than 113 requests for non-local DA listings in one day. This volume of non-local DA requests accounts for more than 5% of the total DA calls received by those operators for that specific time period. It is in the public interest for Nevada Bell to be able to provide its customers with NDA service.

SBC understands that the Commission, and your division in particular, is working with limited resources to resolve numerous proceedings. However, SBC would appreciate any efforts the Commission can make to rule on SBC's pending petition on an expedited basis. If there is any further information that SBC can provide that would facilitate a quick resolution, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toni R. Acton".

Toni R. Acton
Associate Director